



This guide is an invitation to follow Jesus with greater purpose and hope. It will help you to explore the scriptures and challenge you to live out your faith. Each week we'd love for you to think about how you relate: **Up** (with God), **In** (with church) and **Out** (with neighbors).

Weekly Questions:

- How is God getting my attention? For help, think about these areas:
- How are you living up with God?
- How are you living in community with other followers of Jesus?
- How are you living out on mission with your neighbors?
- What are you going to do about it?

Mark: Act II

Read Mark 9:2-41

- Jesus took Peter, James, and John up a high mountain, where he was transfigured, and Elijah and Moses appeared with him. A voice from the cloud identified Jesus: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!" Can you recall a personal "volcano moment" or "mountain top moment" in your life—a time when you were in awe of something good, or you sensed the goodness and generosity of God, that was more magnificent than you could have previously imagined?
- How does reflecting on an experience of awe or a "mountain top moment" help shape your understanding of who God is, what God is up to, and what is possible with God when you face struggles?
- The other disciples were struggling to drive out a spirit from a boy who had been afflicted since childhood. When Jesus arrived, the boy's father said, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!". The father's exclamation, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!", is a blend of faith and doubt. In what areas of your life do you feel this tension between belief and unbelief most strongly?
- "What has a hold of us that tries to take us out? What has hurt us, crushed us, worn us out?". What is your current struggle that makes you wonder if God is there or if God can help? How might you invite Jesus to give you peace in that situation?
- Jesus said, "Everything is possible for one who believes". Where do you need Jesus to help you overcome unbelief so you can remember you are living in a bigger story, and that the Messiah's resurrection is the power that meets you in your unbelief?
- Jesus calls those who want to be first to be the very last and the servant of all. What is one concrete way you can practice a "Jesus-shaped life" this week by serving others or loving your neighbors, not just with words, but with a changed heart?